

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1, 15, and 42 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An illumination optical system comprising:
a light source ~~which emits~~ emitting light; and
a light separation/integration device ~~including~~ having an incident side facing the light source and an exit side from which light from the light source exits; and
a diffraction device ~~which is provided on at least one~~ the incident side of the light separation/integration device facing the light source,
wherein the diffraction device diffracts the light incident from the light source to adjust an incident angle ~~thereof~~ at the incident side of the light separation/integration device to a predetermined range.
2. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 1, wherein the light separation/integration device is an X-cube.
3. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 1, wherein the diffraction device is a diffraction optical element (DOE) or a holographic optical element (HOE).
4. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 2, wherein the diffraction device is a diffraction optical element (DOE) or a holographic optical element (HOE).
5. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 1, further comprising a light guide unit which is provided on an optical path between the light source and the light separation/integration device.
6. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 2, further comprising a light guide unit which is provided on an optical path between the light source and the light

separation/integration device.

7. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 5, wherein the light guide unit is an optical fiber.

8. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 6, wherein the light guide unit is an optical fiber.

9. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 1, further comprising a relay lens unit which is provided between the light source and the light separation/integration device.

10. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 2, further comprising a relay lens unit which is provided on an optical path between the light source and the light separation/integration device.

11. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 1, further comprising an optical path separation device which is provided between the light source and the light separation/integration device.

12. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 2, further comprising an optical path separation device which is provided between the light source and the light separation/integration device.

13. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 11, wherein the optical path separation device is a total internal reflection (TIR) prism.

14. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 12, wherein the optical path separation device is a total internal reflection (TIR) prism.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An image display apparatus to form an image, comprising:

an illumination optical system comprising a light source ~~which emits~~ emitting light, and a light separation/integration device ~~which includes~~ having an incident side facing the light source and an exit side from which light from the light source exits, and a diffraction device provided on

~~at least one the incident side thereof, of the light separation/integration device facing the light source,~~ wherein the diffraction device diffracts the light incident from the light source to adjust an incident angle ~~thereof~~ at the incident side of the light separation/integration device to a predetermined range;

an image optical system which modulates the light incident from the illumination optical system to form the image; and

a projection optical system which projects the light reflected from the image optical system.

16. (ORIGINAL) The image display apparatus of claim 15, wherein the light separation/integration device is an X-cube.

17. (ORIGINAL) The image display apparatus of claim 15, wherein the diffraction device is a diffraction optical element (DOE) or a holographic optical element (HOE).

18. (ORIGINAL) The image display apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a light guide unit which is provided on an optical path between the light source and the light separation/integration device.

19. (ORIGINAL) The image display apparatus of claim 18, wherein the light guide unit is an optical fiber.

20. (ORIGINAL) The image display apparatus of claim 15, wherein the image optical system comprises a panel which modulates the light incident from the illumination optical system according to an image signal of the display apparatus to generate the image.

21. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image display apparatus of claim 20, wherein the illumination optical system further comprises a glass rod which uniformizes an intensity of the light between the light separation/integration device and the panel.

22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image display apparatus of claim 21, wherein the image optical system further comprises an optical path separation device which is provided on an optical path between the glass rod and the panel, reflects the light from the light separation/integration device and transmits the light from the panel.

23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The image display apparatus of claim 22, wherein the image optical system further comprises a collecting lens which is provided on an optical path between the glass rod and the optical path separation device.

24. (ORIGINAL) The image display apparatus of claim 15, wherein the projection optical system comprises a projection lens which projects the image formed by the image optical system onto a screen external to the display apparatus.

25. (ORIGINAL) The image display apparatus of claim 15, wherein the illumination optical system further comprises a relay lens unit which is provided on an optical path between the light source and the light separation/integration device.

26. (ORIGINAL) The image display apparatus of claim 15, wherein the image optical system comprises a relay lens unit which is provided on an optical path between the light separation/integration device and the projection optical system.

27. (ORIGINAL) The image display apparatus of claim 20, wherein the image optical system further comprises a relay lens unit which is provided on an optical path between the light separation/integration device and the projection optical system.

28. (ORIGINAL) The image display apparatus of claim 15, wherein the image optical system comprises an optical path separation device which is provided on an optical path between the light source and the light separation/integration device, reflects the light from the light source and transmits the light from the light separation/integration device.

29. (ORIGINAL) The image display apparatus of claim 20, wherein the image optical system further comprises an optical path separation device which is provided on an optical path between the light source and the light separation/integration device, reflects the light from the light separation/integration device and transmits the light from the panel.

30. (ORIGINAL) The image display apparatus of claim 22, wherein the optical path separation device is a total internal reflection (TIR) prism.

31. (ORIGINAL) The image display apparatus of claim 29, wherein the optical path separation device is a total internal reflection (TIR) prism.

32. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 1, wherein the diffraction device diffracts the light so as to have the light incident on a coating layer of the light separation/integration device at a diverging angle of a minimum of 0 degrees and a maximum of 4-8 degrees.

33. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 1, wherein the diffraction device decreases the incident angle of the light so as to reduce a light loss of the illumination optical system.

34. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 1, wherein the diffraction device is directly formed on the incident side of the light separation/integration device, or manufactured separately and attached to the light separation/integration device.

35. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 1, wherein the diffraction device is a diffraction device having a power.

36. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 2, wherein:
the X-cube includes a coating layer which transmits or reflects light according to the incident angle of the light, and
the diffraction device adjusts the incident angle of the light on the coating layer so as to reduce a light loss of the illumination optical system.

37. (ORIGINAL) The image display apparatus of claim 15, wherein the diffraction device is a diffraction device having a power and decreases the incident angle of the light so as to reduce a light loss of the image display apparatus.

38. (ORIGINAL) The image display apparatus of claim 15, wherein:
the light separation/integration device includes a coating layer which separates the light incident thereon, and
the image optical system includes panels which receive the separated lights, respectively, and modulates the received lights to generate the image.

39. (ORIGINAL) The image display apparatus of claim 15, wherein the diffraction device decreases the incident angle of the light so as to reduce a light loss of the illumination optical system.

40. (ORIGINAL) The image display apparatus of claim 22, wherein the panel is a digital micromirror device and the optical path separation device is a total internal reflection (TIR) prism.

41. (ORIGINAL) The image display apparatus of claim 22, wherein the panel is a liquid crystal on silicon (LCOS) and the optical path separation device is a polarization beam splitter (PBS).

42. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An illumination optical system comprising:
light sources which emit lights having different wavelengths; and
a light separation/integration device ~~including~~ having incident sides facing the light sources, respectively, and an exit side from which lights from the light sources exit; and
~~diffraction devices which are provided on the incident sides of the light separation/integration device corresponding to the lights, facing the light sources, respectively,~~
wherein ~~each of the diffraction devices diffracts the corresponding light~~ diffract the lights incident from the light sources to adjust an incident angle thereof at the incident sides of the light separation/integration device to a predetermined range.

43. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 42, wherein each of the diffraction devices adjusts a diverging angle of the corresponding light incident on the light separation/integration device so as to reduce a light loss and increase a light efficiency of the corresponding light output from the illumination optical system.

44. (ORIGINAL) The illumination optical system of claim 11, wherein the optical path separation device reflects the light from the light source and transmits the light from the light separation/integration device.